

FRACTURED FAIRY TALES

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG

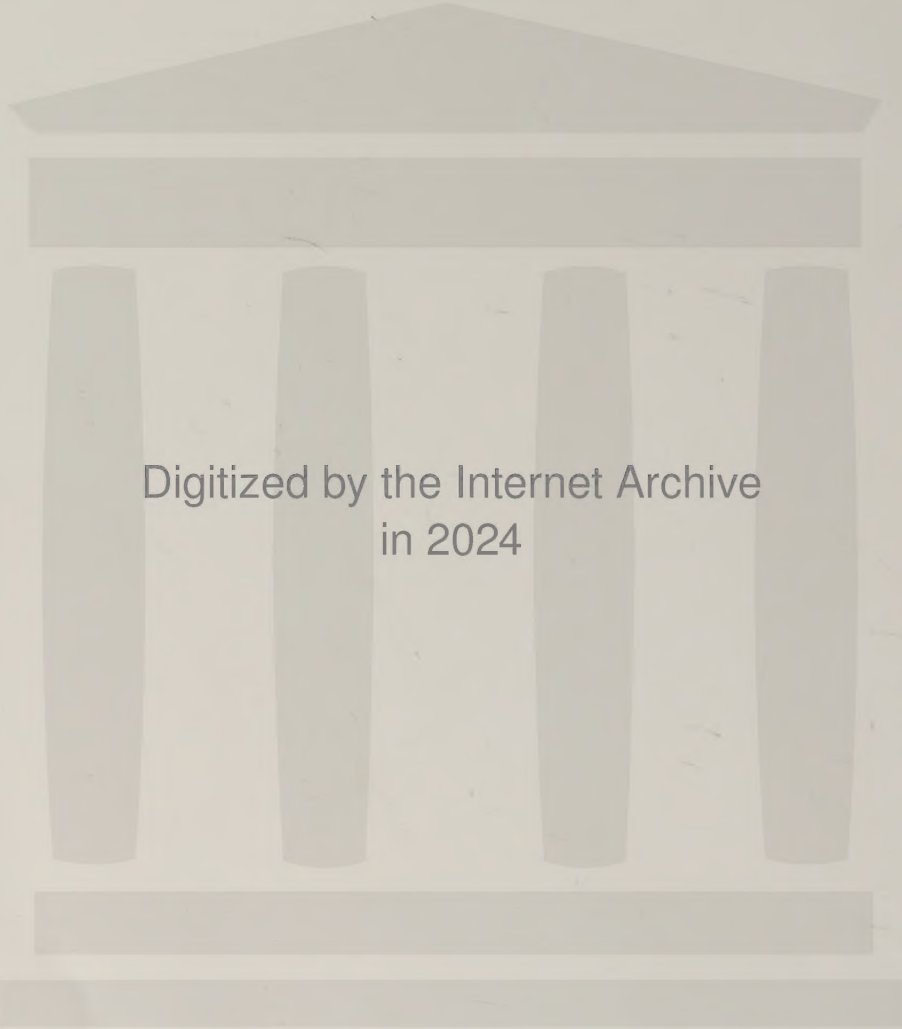


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FRACTURED FAIRY TALES

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG



Graphic Planet

An Imprint of Magic Wagon
abdoobooks.com

**THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE GASHLER FAMILY: MIKE, DESIRE,
JAMIE, TALIA, AND EVAN!
LOVE IS LOVE. -AM**

**TO MY SON HEITOR, WHO LOVES WHAT I DO. AND TO MY WIFE JO, WHO
WAS WITH ME UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT WHILE I ILLUSTRATED THIS BOOK.
LOVE YOU GUYS. -LA**

abdobooks.com

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RECYCLED MATERIALS**

Written by Andy Mangels

Illustrated and Colored by Lelo Alves

Lettered by Kathryn S. Renta

Editorial supervision by David Campiti/MJ Macedo

Packaged by Glass House Graphics

Art Directed by Candice Keimig

Editorial Support by Bridget O'Brien

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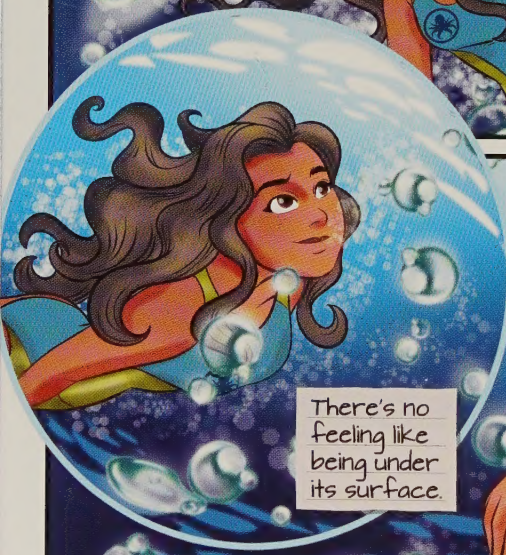


Once Upon
A Time...

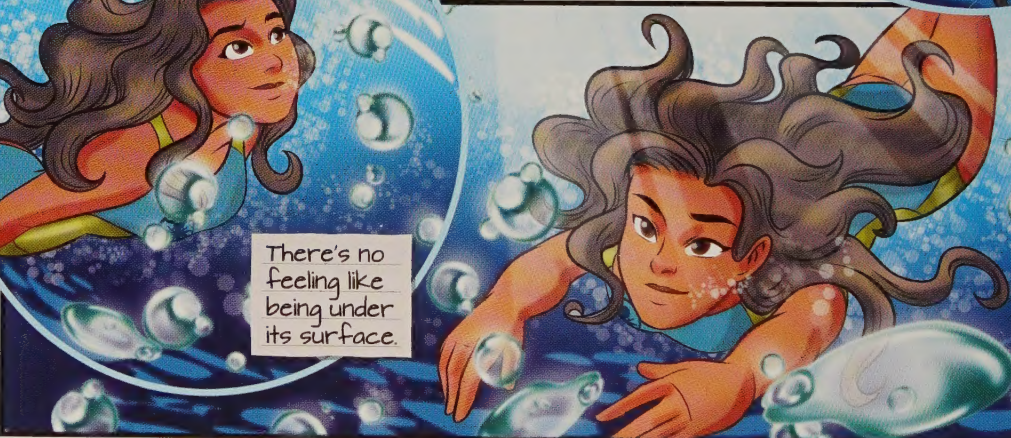
My name is
Marilla. It means
"shining sea."



The water
is my home.



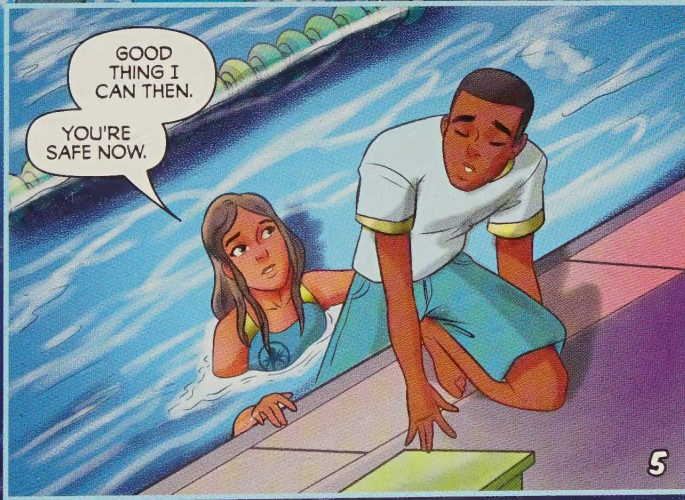
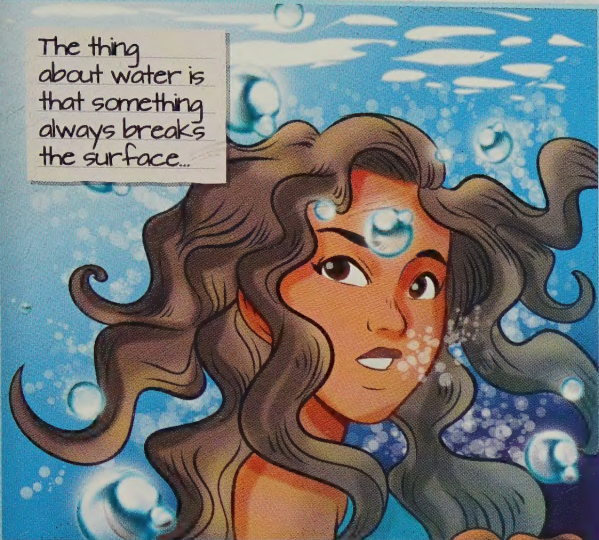
There's no
feeling like
being under
its surface.

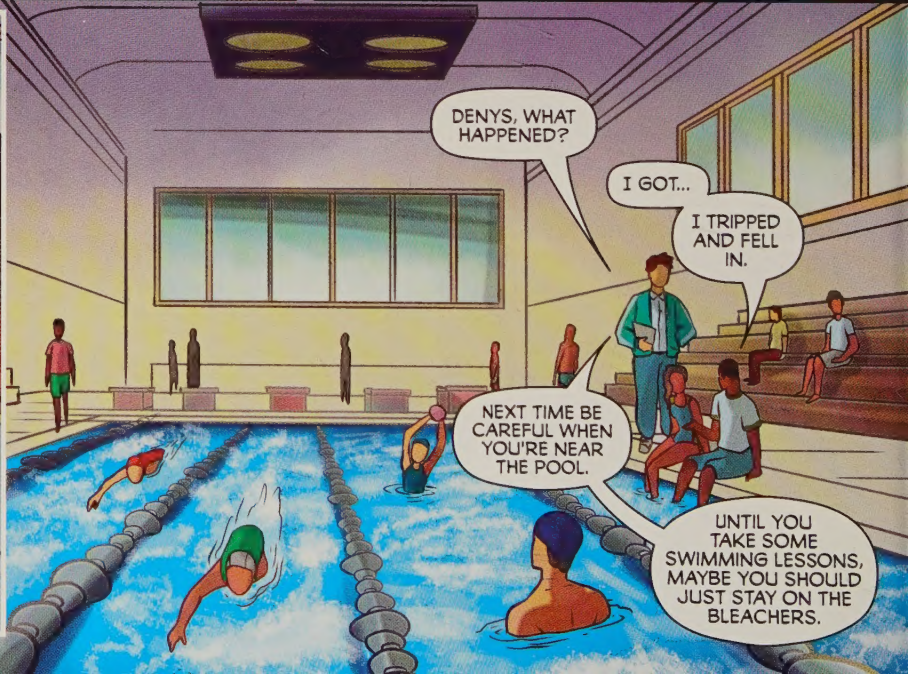
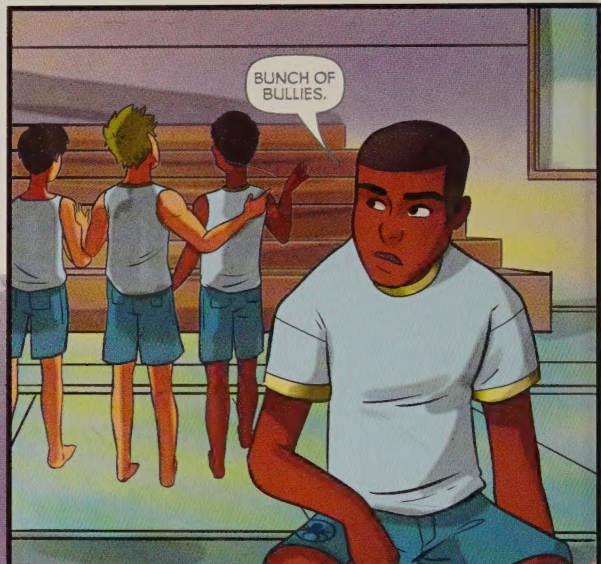


There's only one
thing I love almost
as much...

And nobody knows
what that is but me.

The thing about water is that something always breaks the surface...



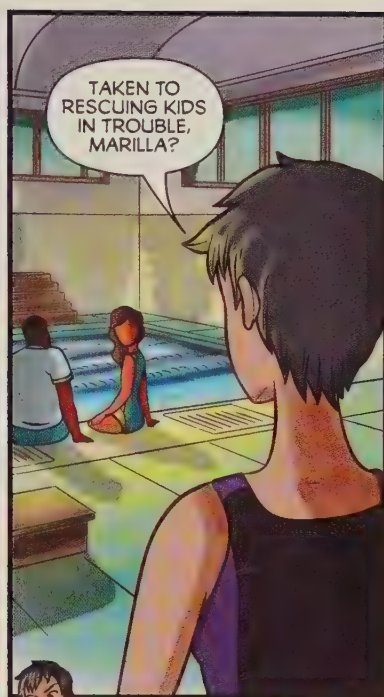




HOW COME
YOU CAN'T
SWIM?



THEY DIDN'T
HAVE A LOT OF
SWIMMING POOLS
WHERE I GREW
UP.



TAKEN TO
RESCUING KIDS
IN TROUBLE,
MARILLA?



ONLY WHEN
THEY NEED IT,
HALI.

GOOD.
YOU'LL NEED
SOME KIND OF
SKILLS TO FALL
BACK ON. THEY
CAN ALWAYS USE
MORE LIFEGUARDS
AT THE
COMMUNITY
POOL.

MAYBE YOU
CAN GIVE DENYS
SOME LESSONS
SINCE WINNING THE
REGIONALS ISN'T IN
YOUR FUTURE.



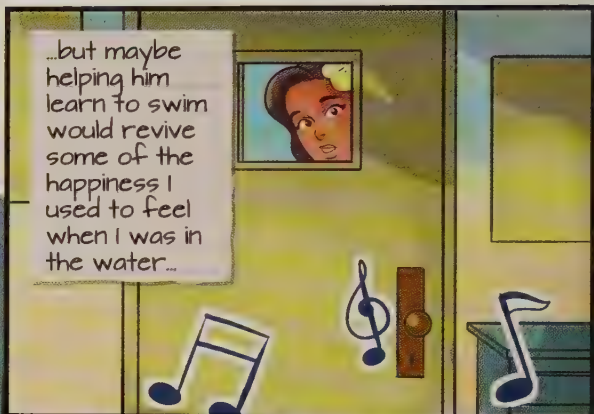
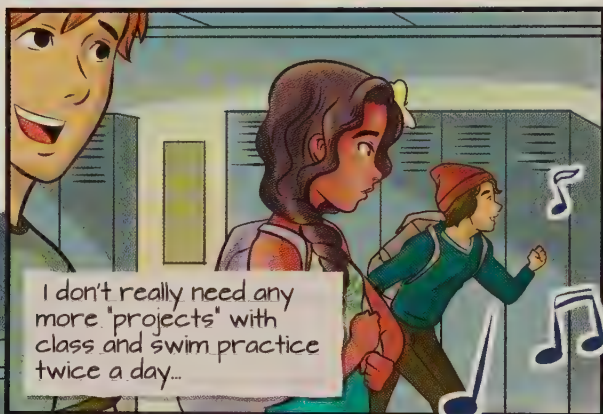
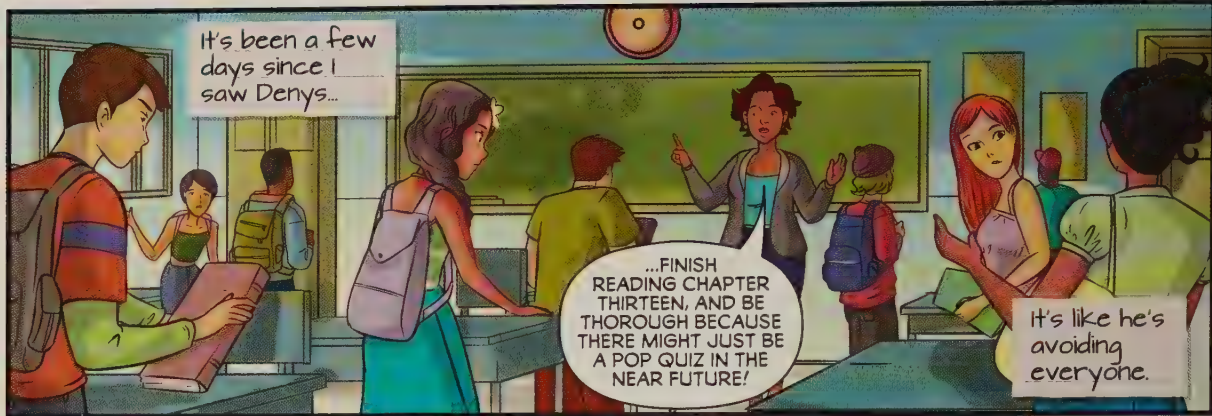
I DON'T NEED
ANY LESSONS. I
JUST NEED TO GET
EXCUSED FROM
GYM CLASS.

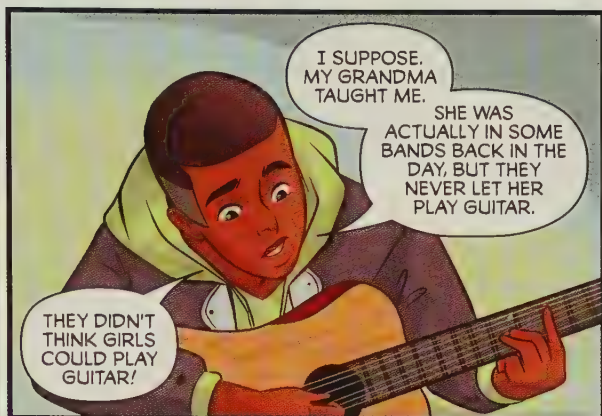
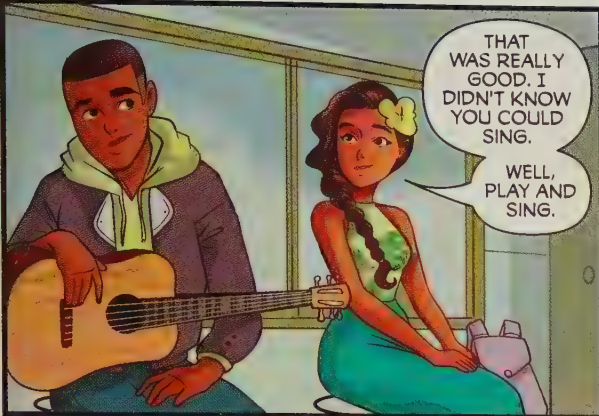


It's strange how
bullies can make
us feel so bad
about ourselves...

My dad says that
"hurt people hurt
others," but why
do they have to
hurt anyone?

Why can't
they just look
for support
instead?







We had
a deal...

Denys wasn't very
graceful to start with,
and he was never going
to compete with the
Krakens' Mermen team,
but he was learning...

He taught me how
to harmonize and
read music charts...

...and helped me
gain confidence
in my own voice.

Of course I didn't
dare use my voice
when Mom lectured
me about schoolwork
and swim practice...

But as long as I worked
hard on everything she
wanted me to, what Mom
didn't know wouldn't hurt
her...

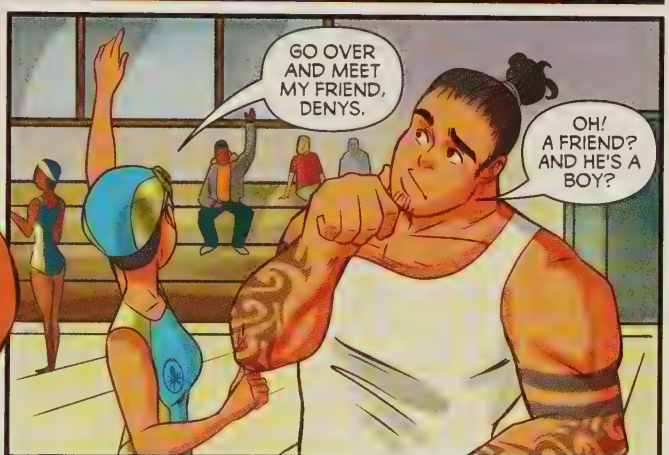
A MONTH LATER...

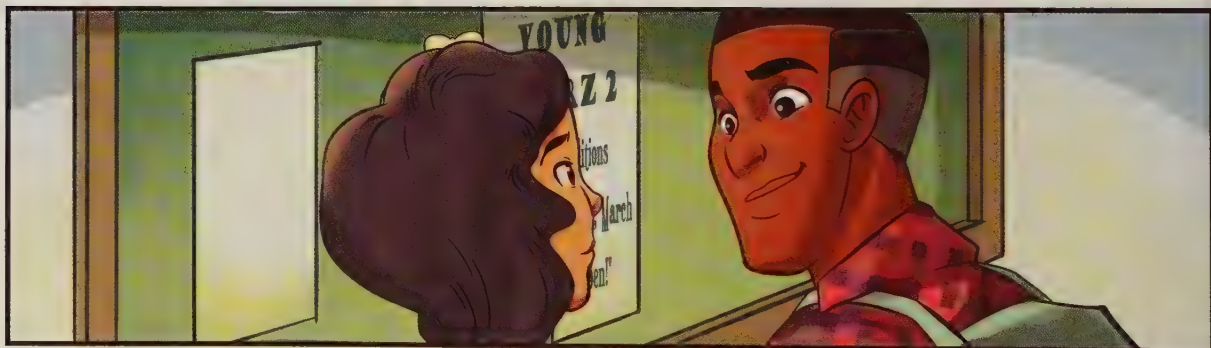
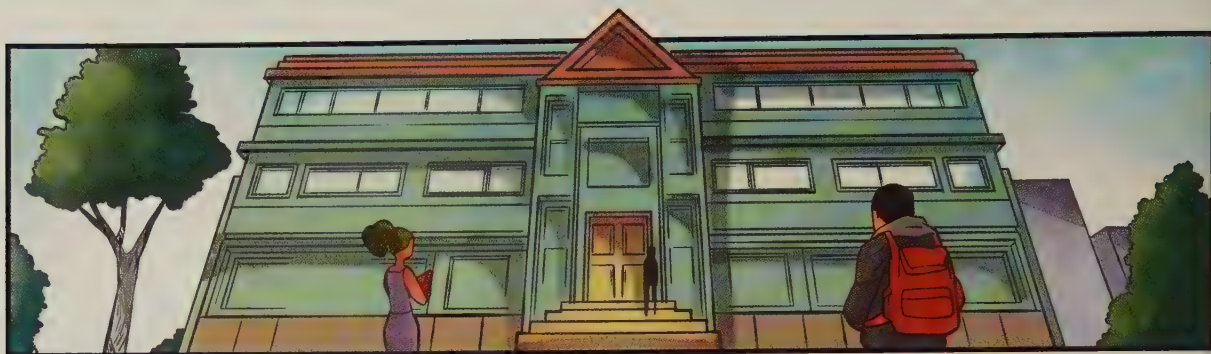
WHEEEEEEEEEET

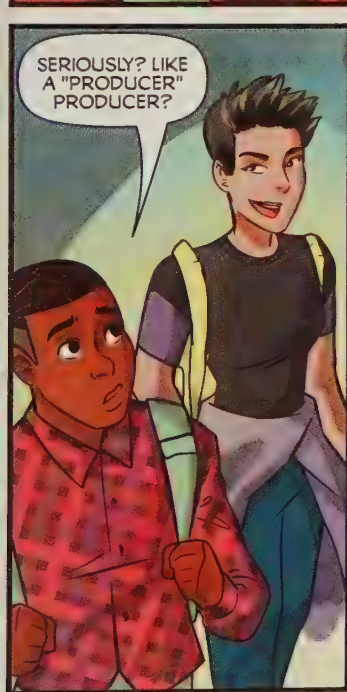
Having music in my life really made a difference, and so did my friendship with Denys.

I was enjoying swimming again, even when I was competing against Hali

She was always my strongest competitor, although she took the competition too far sometimes.







When Hali said
that, I knew how
important it was...

...so I decided
to go public...





I WANT
YOU ALL TO
HEAR ME.

HEAR
US.

NONE OF YOU
HAVE EVER REALLY
HEARD ME SING BEFORE,
BUT DENYS AND I HAVE
BEEN PRACTICING A LOT,
AND I WANT YOU TO
LISTEN.

I've never done something
quite so scary as
performing that song...



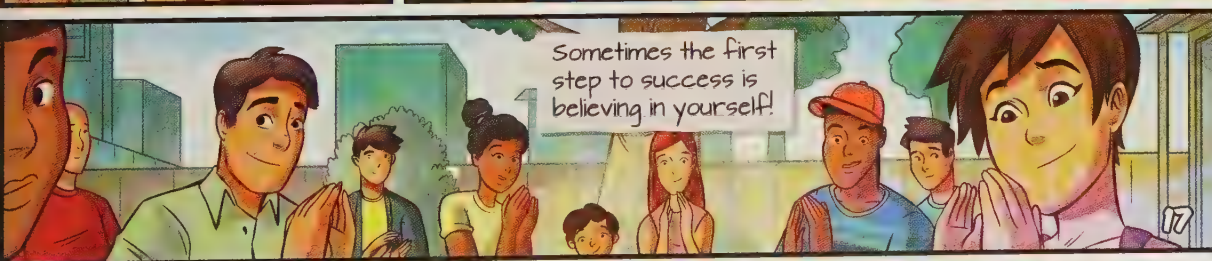
...but I knew that
if I could sing in
front of my family...



...and my
friends and
teammates...

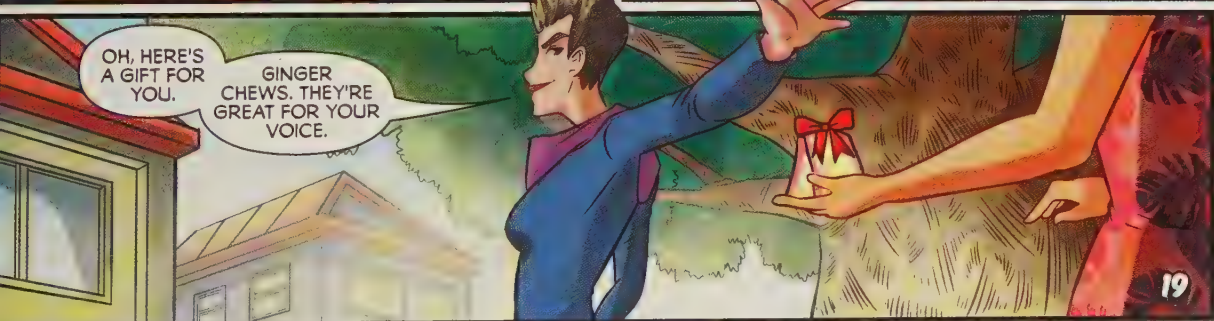


...I would be a
stronger person.



Sometimes the first
step to success is
believing in yourself!









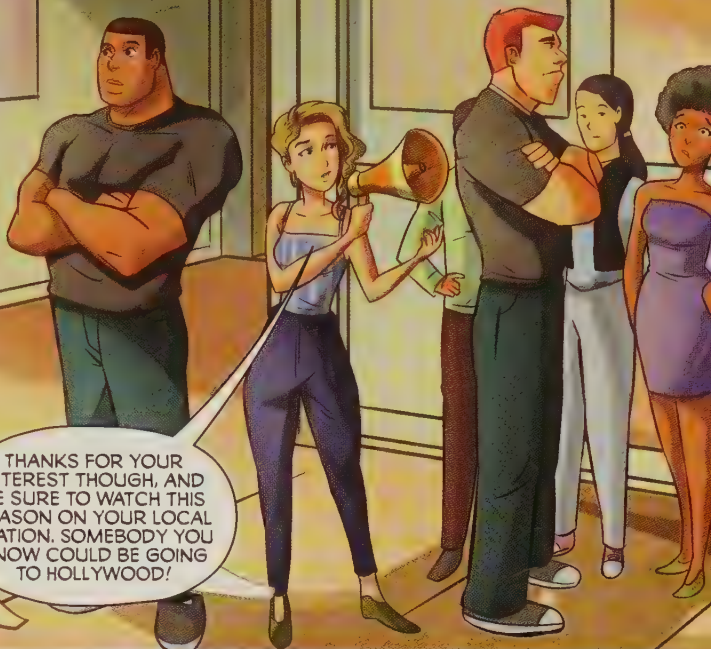
COME ON, BE GOOD NEWS...

EVERYONE FROM HERE BACK, LISTEN UP!

WE'RE SORRY YOU'VE BEEN STANDING HERE FOR SO LONG, BUT WE ONLY HAD LIMITED AUDITION SLOTS AVAILABLE!

UNFORTUNATELY, ALL THE SLOTS HAVE BEEN TAKEN, SO WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU THIS TIME.

THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST THOUGH, AND BE SURE TO WATCH THIS SEASON ON YOUR LOCAL STATION. SOMEBODY YOU KNOW COULD BE GOING TO HOLLYWOOD!



OH NO!

THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY!



EXCUSE ME, MA'AM? WE'VE BEEN WAITING OUT HERE SINCE 5 A.M. ISN'T THERE ANY WAY YOU CAN JUST ADD ONE MORE SLOT?

SO SORRY, BUT WE'RE ALL FULL.

IF YOU CHECK AT THE TABLE BACK THERE THOUGH, THEY MIGHT GIVE YOU A YOUNG STARZ WATER BOTTLE FOR FREE!



HEY KAREN, GOOD TO SEE YOU.

OH! HELLO, HALLI. YOU LOOK FANTASTIC TODAY.

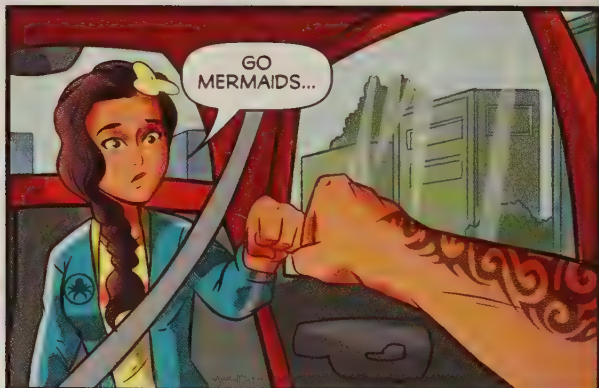
I'LL BE SURE TO TELL MY UNCLE WHAT A GOOD JOB YOU'RE DOING.

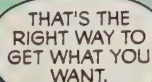
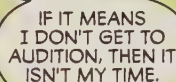
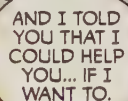
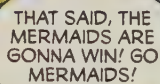
THANK YOU! THAT WOULD BE SO GREAT!



WELL, I GUESS WE DON'T HAVE ANY OPTIONS NOW.

MAYBE NOT...







WELCOME
EVERYONE TO THE
STATE REGIONAL
SWIMMING
FINALS!

IT'S GONNA
BE A BUSY
SCHEDULE TODAY
WITH FOUR TEAMS
REPRESENTING!

IN PURPLE
AND GOLD ARE
THE VIKINGS!

IN
BLUE AND
GOLD ARE THE
KRAKEN MERMAIDS
AND MERMEN!

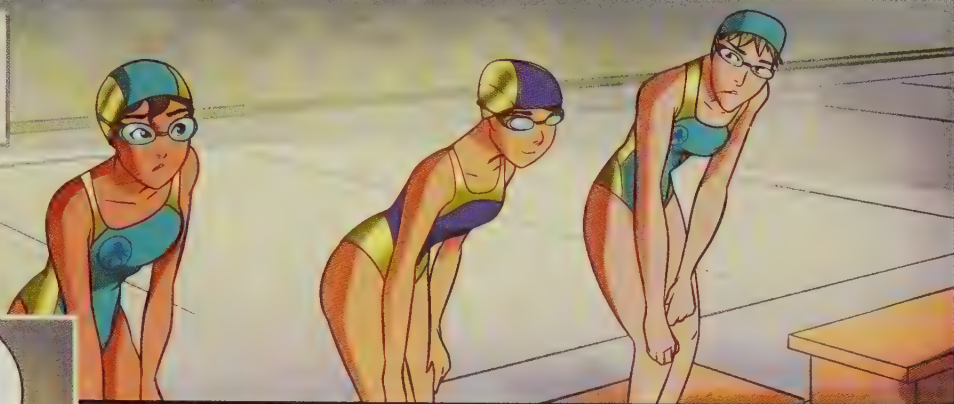
IN RED AND
WHITE ARE THE
CYCLONES!

AND IN
ORANGE AND
PURPLE ARE THE
BUCCANEERS!

I'M SORRY YOU
DIDN'T GET TO DO
YOUR SINGING THING,
BUT FOR MARILLA, THIS
IS REALLY FAR MORE
IMPORTANT.

IT'S SO
NICE OF YOU
TO BE HERE TO
SUPPORT
MARILLA,
DENYS.

I can tell that Hali is angry, but I have to be true to myself.

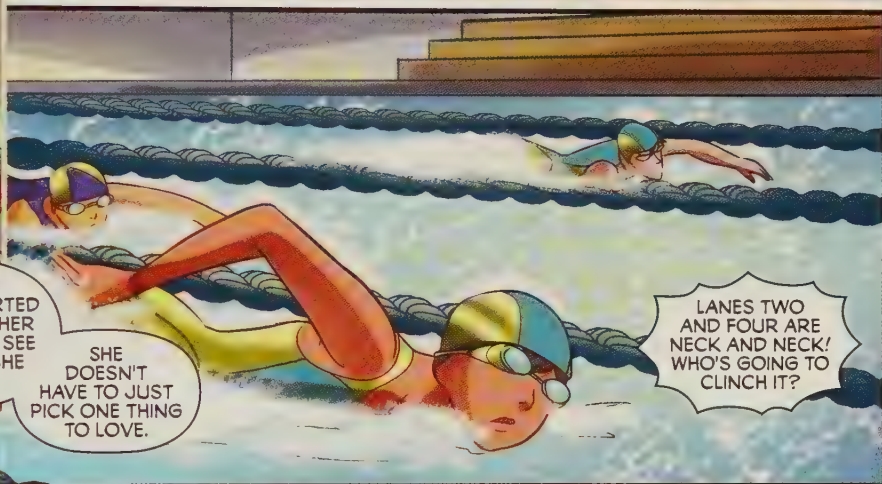


MRS. PAULO, I DON'T MEAN TO TALK BACK TO YOU, BUT THE "SINGING THING" IS IMPORTANT TO MARILLA, TOO.



MAYBE IF YOU SUPPORTED HER IN ALL OF HER GOALS, YOU'D SEE HOW MUCH SHE LOVES IT.

SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO JUST PICK ONE THING TO LOVE.



LANES TWO AND FOUR ARE NECK AND NECK! WHO'S GOING TO CLINCH IT?

AND COMING IN TO THE WALL, LANE TWO WINS!



IT'S MARILLA PAULO, ONE OF THE KRAKEN MERMAIDS!

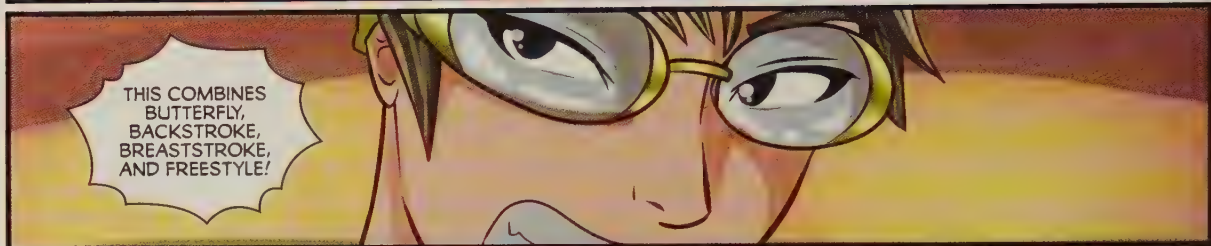


If I do my best, and Hali does her best, then we've both done our best, no matter who wins.





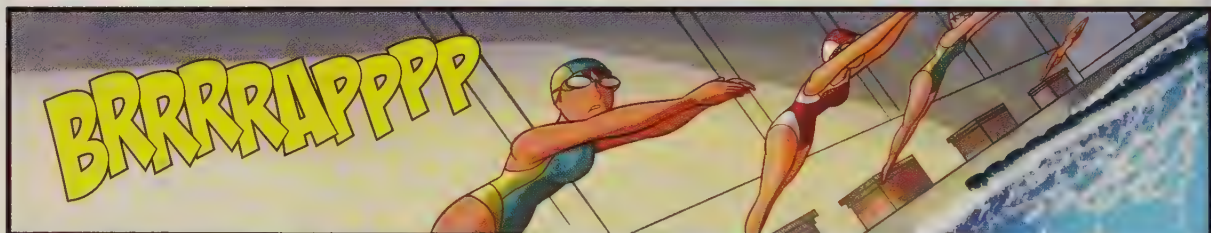
WELCOME
BACK, AND NEXT
UP IS THE WOMEN'S
200-YARD
INDIVIDUAL
MEDLEY!



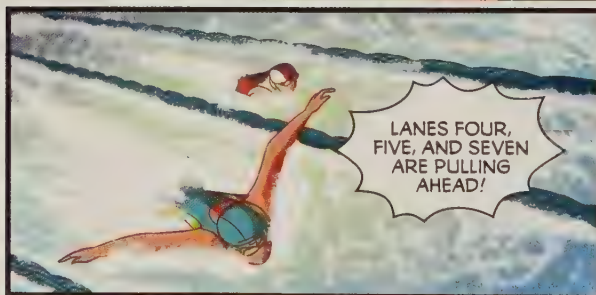
THIS COMBINES
BUTTERFLY,
BACKSTROKE,
BREASTSTROKE,
AND FREESTYLE!



THE
GIRLS ALL
LOOK PUMPED
TO COMPETE!



BRRRRAPPPP



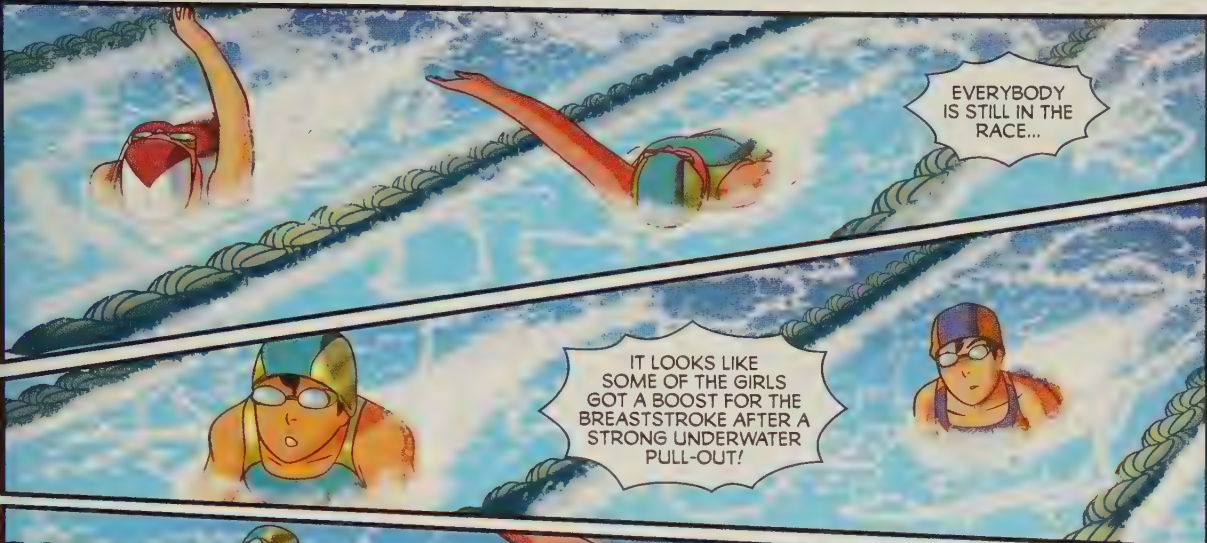
LANES FOUR,
FIVE, AND SEVEN
ARE PULLING
AHEAD!



GOOD
TIMING ALL
AROUND!

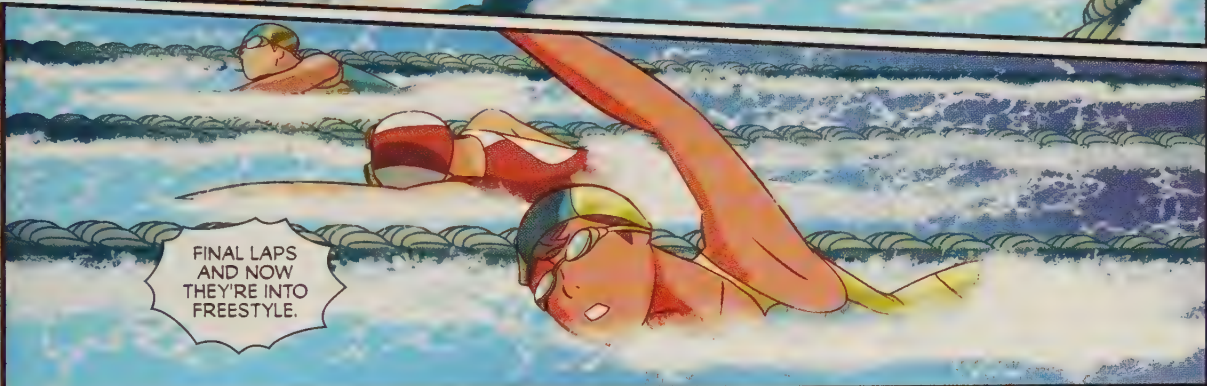


AND NOW WE
SEE LANES TWO
AND THREE PULLING
AHEAD IN THE
BACKSTROKE.

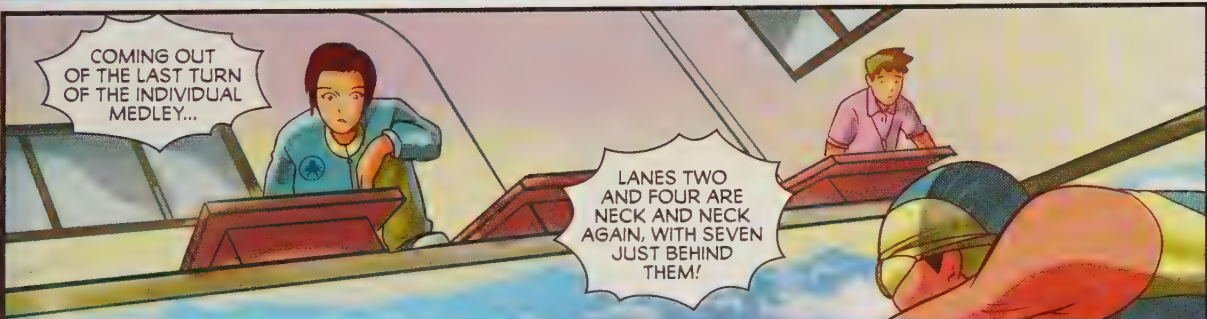


EVERYBODY
IS STILL IN THE
RACE...

IT LOOKS LIKE
SOME OF THE GIRLS
GOT A BOOST FOR THE
BREASTSTROKE AFTER A
STRONG UNDERWATER
PULL-OUT!

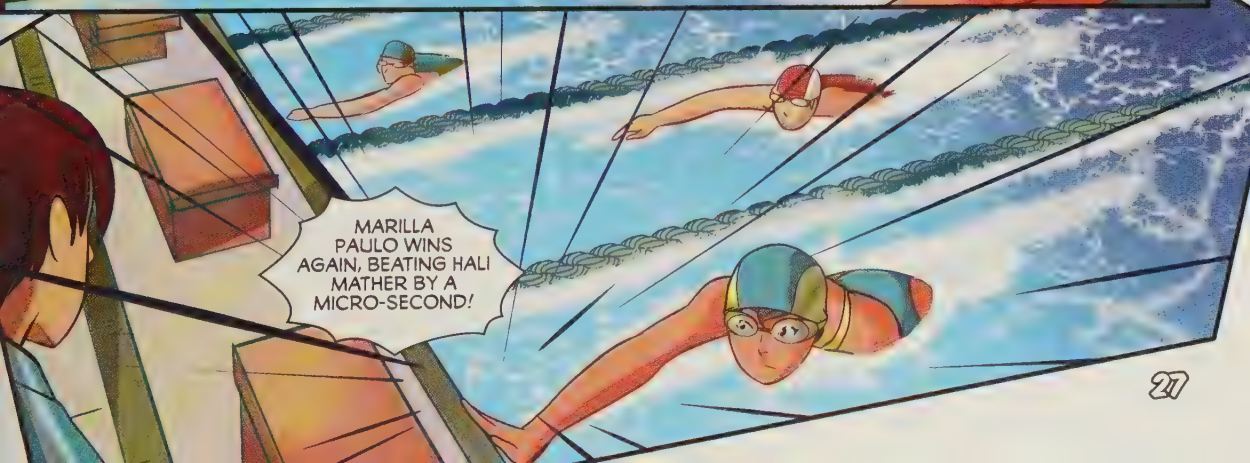


FINAL LAPS
AND NOW
THEY'RE INTO
FREESTYLE.

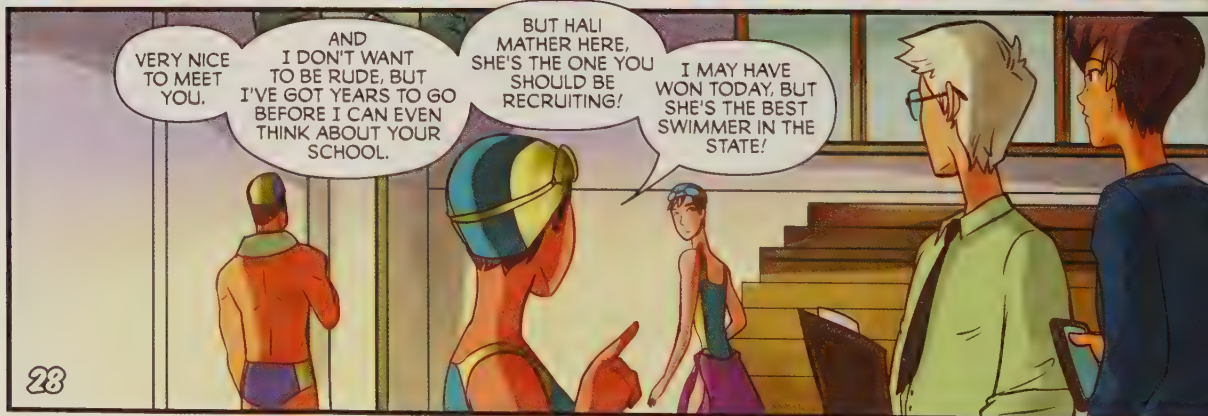
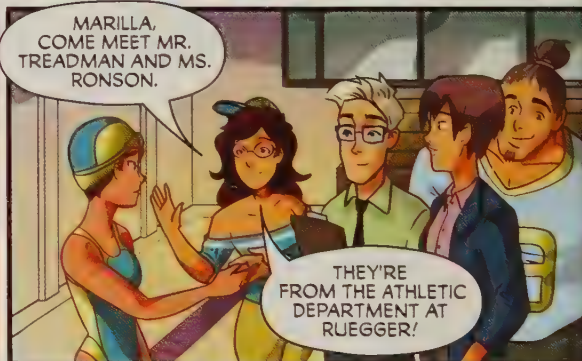
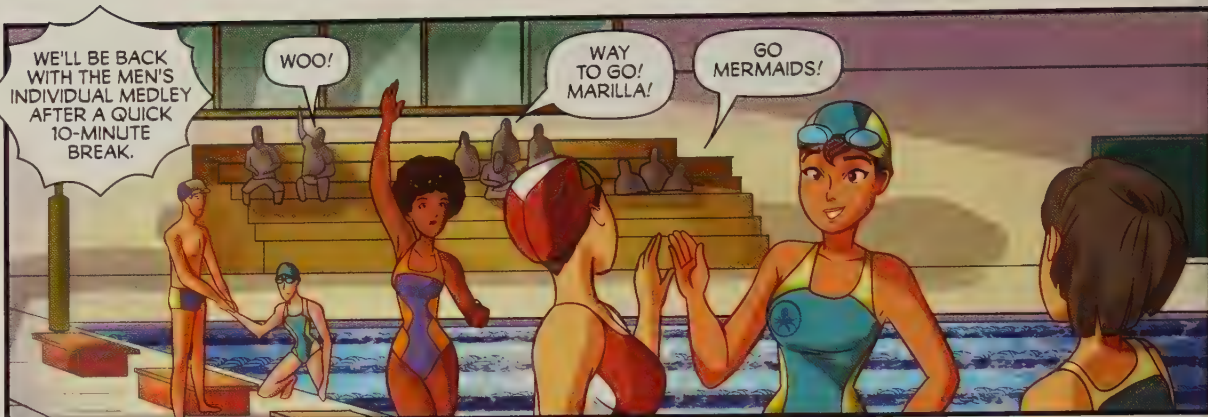


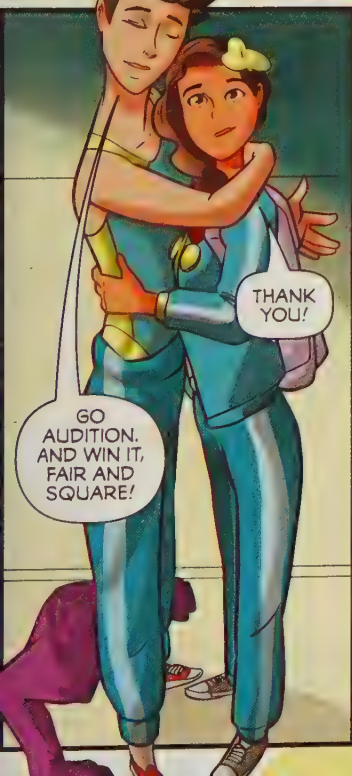
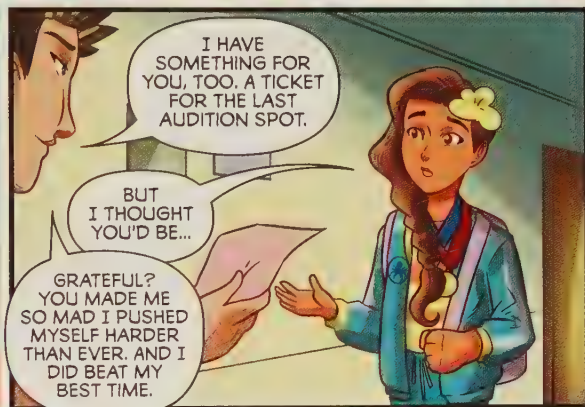
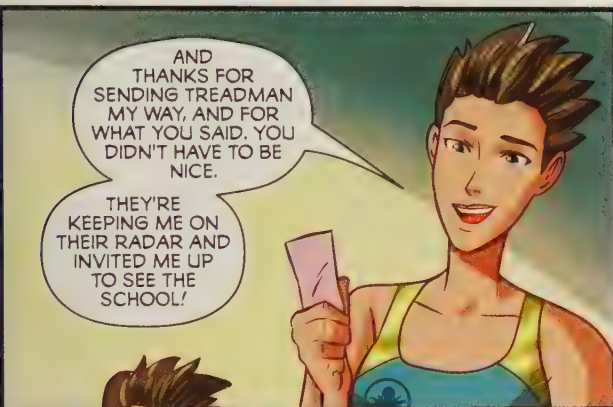
COMING OUT
OF THE LAST TURN
OF THE INDIVIDUAL
MEDLEY...

LANES TWO
AND FOUR ARE
NECK AND NECK
AGAIN, WITH SEVEN
JUST BEHIND
THEM!



MARILLA
PAULO WINS
AGAIN, BEATING HALI
MATHER BY A
MICRO-SECOND!







WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WHEN YOU REALLY WANT SOMETHING, AND YOU WORK OR STUDY OR PRACTICE HARD TO GET IT, YOU'RE WORKING TOWARD YOUR GOALS! BUT THERE ARE OFTEN OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE ALSO WORKING TOWARD THE SAME GOALS. YOU CAN TRY YOUR BEST, BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE FAIR TO OTHERS WHO ARE TRYING THEIR BEST AS WELL. CHEATERS WHO LOOK FOR AN EASY WAY TO WIN RARELY GET WHAT THEY WANT IN THE END. STAYING TRUE TO YOUR GOALS AND WORKING TO ACHIEVE THEM IS THE BEST WAY TO WIN.

- Marilla makes a trade with Denys and shared her talent in exchange for him sharing his. Have you ever made a deal with someone to help you with something and you would help them? Did you feel like that was a business deal, or was it fun to share?
- On the opposite side, Hali makes an offer to Marilla to let her win the swim meet, and Hali will get Marilla the audition she wants. Have you ever had someone offer to do something for you that you want, in exchange for you doing something you didn't want to do? How did you react?
- Marilla's mom wants her to concentrate on school and swimming and doesn't support her goals. But she's not being mean. She just wants Marilla to excel in areas she's good at. Her mom grows by seeing that Marilla can handle several things at once. Are there things you want to do that you wish you had more support to do?
- Denys and Marilla have decided to just be friends, even though their parents think there's a romance between them. Good friendship is important. Do you have friends that are just friends that people think you have a romantic interest in? How do you tell people that you're "just friends" without making them sound like they're not important?
- At her birthday party, Marilla made a choice to sing in front of friends and family, which was brave. What's the bravest thing you've done? Were you still worried after it was over, or were you glad you did it?

NEW STORIES & OLD TALES: FAIRY TALE FUN FACTS

1. Although the term "Fairy Tale" was translated from a French collection by Madame D'Aulnoy in 1697, fairy tales have been around since people could talk and write. They generally include magical beings and often have rivalries between two characters.
2. Hans Christian Anderson's "The Little Mermaid" was first published in 1837 as part of a collection of Danish fairy tales. It is about a young mermaid who gives up her life underwater in order to become human. She visits a Sea Witch who gives her a potion to become human in exchange for her voice. The beloved story has been adapted for opera, ballet, stage plays, musicals, film, television, animation, and toys.
3. There are three statues of the Little Mermaid in Italy and one in the country of Monaco. The most famous statue is on a rock in a harbor of Copenhagen, Denmark.
4. The most famous adaptation of Anderson's "The Little Mermaid" is the 1989 Disney film of the same name. It won two Academy Awards, and was later made into a live Broadway musical. It led to the name Ariel becoming one of the most popular names for little girls for several years.
5. Mermaids have appeared in folk tales and fairy tales since before written language! They are almost always beautiful women, whose lower body is a fish tail. They almost always sing beautifully and were said to lure sailors to shipwreck or other disasters. Some people think mermaids are a type of sea creature called a manatee, but others still believe that mermaids swim the ocean today!



GLOSSARY

AUDITION — To give a trial performance showcasing personal talent as a musician, a singer, a dancer, or an actor.

COMPETITION — A contest between two or more persons or groups.

GOALS — Something that a person works to reach or complete.

HARMONIES — The playing of musical tones together in chords. Also a pleasing arrangement of parts.

INTERN — An intern is a student or somebody in training gaining guided practice experience in a professional field.

MEDLEY — A varied mixture of people or things.

RECRUIT — To get someone to join a group. A person who recruits people is called a recruiter.

SCOUT — Someone sent to discover new talented athletes or entertainers.



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MAN

Mangels, Andy

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG

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FRACTURED FAIRY TALES

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG



This fractured fairy tale weaves the story of Marilla Paulo. After the talented swimmer saves her classmate Denys when he is pushed into a pool, they become friends. She teaches him how to swim, and he encourages her love of singing despite her parents' wishes. But with a big swim meet and singing competition coming up, a jealous teammate offers to help Marilla get an audition slot if she throws their match. Will Marilla sink or swim?

BEAUTY AND THE BARISTA

CINDY RELLA

THE LITTLE MERMAID'S SONG

RAPUNZEL SWINGS

SLEEPING BEAUTÉ

**SNOW WHITE AND
THE SEVEN DOGS**



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